

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /062 W

----- 121076

P R 131405Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1139

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL GENEVA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 4439

GENEVA FOR CSCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SW, UR, PINS

SUBJECT: SWEDISH CORRESPONDENT REFUSED RE-ENTRY INTO SOVIET UNION

REF: STOCKHOLM A-436, NOVEMBER 21, 1973.

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SWEDISH EMBASSY IN MOSCOW WAS INFORMED DECEMBER 13 THAT SWEDISH RADIO'S MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT, OLLE STENHOLM, WHO IS PRESENTLY IN GENEVA, WILL BE REFUSED VISA FOR RE-ENTRY INTO SOVIET UNION. REPORTEDLY STENDHOLM WAS ACCUSED OF ACTIVITIES INCOMPATIBLE WITH HIS POSTION AS A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT, OF TRYING TO INFLUENCE SOVIET CITIZENS TO LEAVE THE USSR, OF INITIATING CAMPAIGN IN WESTERN PRESS HOSTILE TO SOVIET UNION, AND OF SPREADING ABUSIVE INFORMATION ABOUT SOVIET SOCIETY.

2. ACCORDING TO LOCAL RADIO REPORT, SWEDISH FONMIN
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SVEN ANDERSSON MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "IT IS WITH

REGRET AND SURPRISE THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED NEWS ABOUT ACTION AGAINST STENHOLM. THIS IS INCONSISTENT WITH EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONTACTS OVER BORDERS. PRESENT CONFERENCE OF SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, IS DEALING WITH WORKING CONDITIONS OF JOURNALISTS AND AIMING AT FACILITATING THEIR WORK."

3. OTTO NORDENSKIOLD, HEAD OF SWEDISH RADIO, TOLD PRESS THAT "WE DEEPLY REGRET ACCUSATIONS DIRECTED AGAINST STENHOLM. WE FIND THEM INCOMPREHENSIBLE, BUT WE PRESUME THAT REACTION AGAINST HIM IS BASED ON HIS INTERVIEW WITH SACHAROV."

4. AS REPORTED A-436, STENHOLM RECEIVED 10,000 KRONOR SWEDISH JOURNALIST AWARD FEW MONTHS AGO FOR HIS TV INTERVIEW WITH SOVIET PHYSICIST ANDREI SACHAROV. HE WAS WARNED BY SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY SHORTLY AFTER INTERVIEW, AND STATED THEN THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WARNING AS THREAT OF POSSIBLE EXPULSION.

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